

Attorney Docket No.: 5253.200-US



Ap 1647

PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of: Blinkosky et al.

Confirmation No: 9075

Serial No.: 09/080,127

Group Art Unit: 1647

Filed: May 15, 1999

Examiner: S.Turner

For: Polypeptides Having Aminopeptidase Activity And Nucleic Acids Encoding Same

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING UNDER 37 CFR 1.8(a)

Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, DC 20231

Sir:

I hereby certify that the attached correspondence comprising:

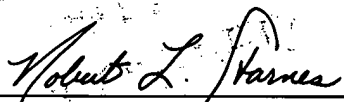
1. Amendment Fee Transmittal (in duplicate)
2. Amendment

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In re Application of: Blinkovsky *et al.*

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AMENDMENT

Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, DC 20231

Sir:

In response to the Office Action dated May 18, 2001, please amend the above-captioned application as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please cancel claims 130-169 without prejudice or disclaimer. Please add new claims 170-206 as follows:

170. An isolated polypeptide having amino peptidase activity with physicochemical properties of (i) a pH optimum in the range of from about pH 7.27 to about pH 10.95 determined at ambient temperature in the presence of Ala-para-nitroanilide; (ii) a temperature stability of 90% or more, relative to initial activity, at pH 7.5 determined after incubation for 20 minutes at 60°C in the absence of substrate; (iii) a temperature stability of 64% or more, relative to initial activity, at pH 7.5 determined after incubation for 20 minutes at 70°C in the absence of substrate; and (iv) an ability to hydrolyze a substrate containing Ala, Arg, Asn, Asp, Cys, Gln, Glu, Gly, His, Ile, Leu, Lys, Phe, Pro, Ser, Thr, Trp, Tyr, or Val at its N-terminus, selected from the group consisting of:

(a) a polypeptide having an amino acid sequence which has at least 90% identity with the amino acid sequence of amino acids 16 to 496 of SEQ ID NO:2;

(b) a polypeptide which is encoded by a nucleic acid sequence which hybridizes under medium stringency conditions with (i) the nucleic acid sequence of nucleotides 46 to 1488 of SEQ ID NO:1, or (ii) its complementary strand, wherein medium stringency

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p 47-48 and 7.11